

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

November 2013 – Week 3

Air Date: November 10 – November 16 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: PLUG OF DEATH

NOVEMBER 1837 AND TOBACCO PROVES DEADLY FOR TEXAS RANGERS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

NOVEMBER 10, 1837. STONE HOUSES, A ROCK FORMATION NEAR WICHITA FALLS.

FOR WEEKS, TEXAS RANGERS HAVE BEEN TRACKING A BAND OF KEECHI INDIANS THAT RAIDED A FORT DOWN ON THE LITTLE RIVER.

WHEN THE RANGERS CAME ACROSS A LONE KEECHI SCOUT WHO WON'T SURRENDER, FELIX MCCLUSKEY KILLED HIM, SCALPED HIM AND STOLE HIS TOBACCO, SAYING HE'D KILL ANY INDIAN FOR A PLUG OF TOBACCO.

TODAY, THE RANGERS FIND THE RAIDING PARTY. FRIENDLY INDIANS CALL FOR PEACE, BUT THE KEECHIS DEMAND THE SURRENDER OF MCCLUSKEY. THE TEXANS REFUSE AND THE FIGHT BEGINS.

THE KEECHI LIGHT A RING OF FIRE AROUND THE RANGERS AND ONLY EIGHT SURVIVE, MCCLUSKEY IS ONE OF THEM. LEGEND SAYS HE LATER DIED IN A DRUNKEN BRAWL.

THE BATTLE OF STONE HOUSES STARTED OVER A PLUG OF TOBACCO, 176 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Jack O. Loftin, "STONE HOUSES, BATTLE OF," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/bts03>), accessed October 31, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Stephen L. Moore, "Battle of Stone Houses November 10, 1837," *The Texas Ranger Dispatch*, Issue 9, Winter 2002 (http://www.texasranger.org/dispatch/Backissues/Dispatch_Issue_09.pdf), accessed October 31, 2013. Published by the Texas Ranger Hall of Fame and Museum.

Mike Cox, "The Texas Rangers: Wearing the Cinco Peso, 1821-1900", (http://books.google.com/books?id=CBFTPgAACAAJ&dq=%22Savage+Frontier%22&lr=&as_brr=0&client=firefox-a&source=gbs_book_other_versions_r&cad=6), accessed October 31, 2013. Published by Macmillan, 2008.

TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE

Save Texas History Program

1-800-998-4GLO | www.savetexashistory.org | www.thisweekintexashistory.org

Texas General Land Office | Communications Division | 512-475-1685